

# Note 13

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## Section 17.2. Line Integrals

Last time Defined scalar line integral using the idea of Riemann sums

- Today
- Investigate some applications in physics.
  - Learn vector line integral

### 2 Applications of Scalar Line Integral

- If  $\rho(x,y,z)$  denotes density over  $C$ , then  
[total amount over  $C$ ] =  $\int_C \rho(x,y,z) ds$
- If  $\rho(x,y,z)$  denotes charge density over  $C$ , then Coulomb's law tells:

$$[\text{electric potential at } P] = k \int_C \frac{\rho(x,y,z)}{\| \langle x,y,z \rangle - P \|} ds$$

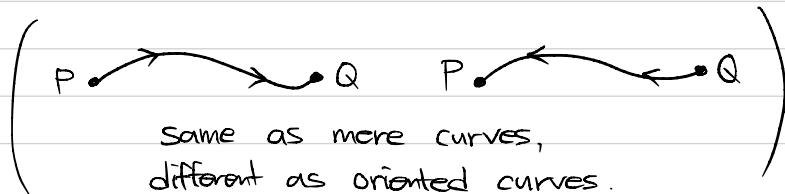
↑  
some physical constant      ↓  
distance from  $\langle x,y,z \rangle$  to  $P$ .

### 3 Vector Line Integral

#### ① Definition

- Setting: Suppose we have
  - an **oriented curve**  $C$  (curve w/ orientation)
  - a vector field  $F$  over  $C$ .

"traversing direction"

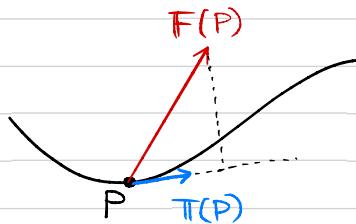


- If  $\ell$ : oriented curve &  $P$ : point on  $\ell$ , we write

$$\tau(P) = [\text{unit tangent vector at } P]$$



- $F \cdot \tau$  is the tangential component of  $F$  at  $P$ :



DEF The vector line integral of  $F$  over  $\ell$  is defined as

$$\int_{\ell} (F \cdot \tau) ds$$

and is denoted by

$$\int_{\ell} F \cdot d\mathbf{r} \quad \text{or} \quad \int_{\ell} (F_1 dx + F_2 dy + F_3 dz)$$

- $d\mathbf{r} = \langle dx, dy, dz \rangle = \tau ds$  is often called vector differential.

Q Is this strange thing ever useful?

A Absolutely! ☺

## ② Parametrization

- If  $\mathbf{r}$ : parametrization of  $C$ , then its orientation (traverse direction) may be either:

positive      or      negative  
 (the same as the  
 orientation of  $C$ )      (the opposite of  
 the orientation of  $C$ )



- In scalar line integral, both can be used. BUT, since

$$\pi = \begin{cases} \frac{\mathbf{r}'(t)}{\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|} & \text{for positively oriented} \\ -\frac{\mathbf{r}'(t)}{\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|} & \text{for negatively oriented,} \end{cases}$$

we have to distinguish both cases in vector line integral.

**IHM** If  $\mathbf{r} : [a, b] \rightarrow C$  is positively oriented param., then

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt.$$

- If we write  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$ , then

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_a^b \left( F_1(\mathbf{r}(t)) \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + \dots + F_3(\mathbf{r}(t)) \frac{dz(t)}{dt} \right) dt.$$

Ex Evaluate  $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ , where

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle y, e^x, x+z \rangle,$$

$C$  : param-ed by  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle t+1, t^2, 2 \rangle \quad (1 \leq t \leq 2)$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\text{Sol}}) \quad \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) &= \langle t^2, e^t, t+3 \rangle \cdot \langle 1, 2t, 0 \rangle \\ &= t^2 + 2e^t t + (t+3) \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} &= \int_1^2 (t^2 + (2e^t + 1)t + 3) dt \\ &= \left[ \frac{t^3}{3} + (2e^t + 1) \cdot \frac{t^2}{2} + 3t \right]_1^2 = \dots \end{aligned}$$

D

Ex Let

▷  $C$  : circle of radius  $R$  at  $O$ , oriented CCW.

$$\triangleright \mathbf{F} = \left\langle \frac{-y}{x^2+y^2}, \frac{x}{x^2+y^2} \right\rangle.$$

Then  $C$  may be param-ed by

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle R \cos t, R \sin t \rangle. \quad (0 \leq t \leq 2\pi)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle -R \sin t, R \cos t \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \left\langle \frac{-R \sin t}{R^2}, \frac{R \cos t}{R^2} \right\rangle \cdot \langle -R \sin t, R \cos t \rangle dt$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} dt = 2\pi.$$

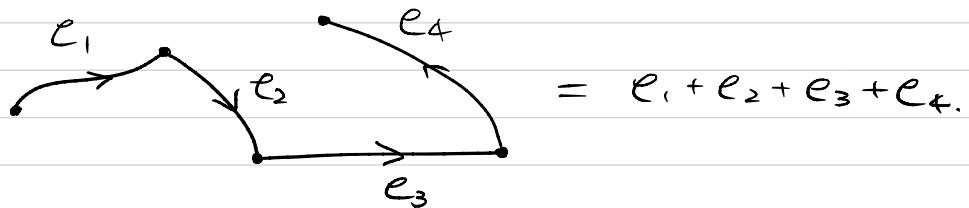
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### ③ Extensions & Properties

- $-\mathcal{C}$  : curve  $\mathcal{C}$  with the opposite orientation.



- $\mathcal{C}_1 + \mathcal{C}_2 + \dots + \mathcal{C}_n$  : union of curves  $\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_n$



#### PROP

- (Linearity)

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}} (aF + bG) \cdot d\mathbf{r} = a \int_{\mathcal{C}} F \cdot d\mathbf{r} + b \int_{\mathcal{C}} G \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

- (Reversing orientation)

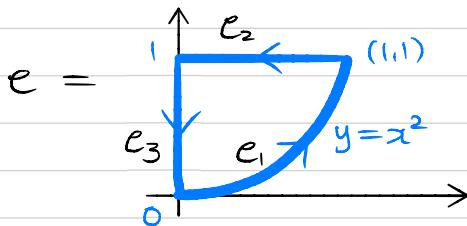
$$\int_{-\mathcal{C}} F \cdot d\mathbf{r} = - \int_{\mathcal{C}} F \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

- (Additivity)

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}_1 + \dots + \mathcal{C}_n} F \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_{\mathcal{C}_1} F \cdot d\mathbf{r} + \dots + \int_{\mathcal{C}_n} F \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

Ex Compute  $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ , where

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle y, -x^2 \rangle,$$



Sol) • Write  $C = e_1 + e_2 + e_3$  as above. Then

$$e_1 : \mathbf{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2 \rangle, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1,$$

$$e_2 : \mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 1-t, 1 \rangle, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1.$$

$$e_3 : \mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 0, 1-t \rangle, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1.$$

(CAUTION:  $t \mapsto \langle t, 1 \rangle$  will traverse  $-e_2$ , not  $e_2$ ).

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} &= \int_C (y dx - x^2 dy) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^3 \int_{e_i} (y dx - x^2 dy), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{e_1} (y dx - x^2 dy) &= \int_0^1 \left( y \frac{dx}{dt} - x^2 \frac{dy}{dt} \right) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 (t^2 \cdot 1 - t^2 \cdot 2t) dt = -\frac{1}{6}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{e_2} (y dx - x^2 dy) &= \int_0^1 (1 \cdot (-1) - (1-t)^2 \cdot 0) dt = -1 \\ &\text{along } e_2, \text{ dy}'' = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_{C_3} (y^2 dx - x^2 dy) = \int_0^1 ((1-t)^2 \cdot 0 + 0 \cdot (-1)) dt = 0.$$

$\overset{\text{"= 0 over } C_3}{\sim}$

$$\therefore \int_C F \cdot d\mathbf{r} = -\frac{1}{6} - 1 + 0 = -\frac{7}{6}. \quad \square$$